Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 IO-14 DODE-00 SS-20 NSC-07 OMB-01

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O 150100Z JUN 74 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE AMEMBASSY OTTAWA IMMEDIATE

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E.O. 11652:GDS TAGS: PARM, NATO

SUBJECT:MBFR: DRAFT NATO COMMUNIQUE LANGUAGE

REF: NATO 3365 (NOTAL)

1. YOU SHOULD OPPOSE INCLUSION OF BRACKETED LANGUAGE IN PARA 8 OF DRAFT NATO MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE. WE SHARE UK VIEW THAT NATO MINISTERIAL COMMUNIQUE IS NOT RPT NOT A PROPER VEHICLE FOR SURFACING THIS IMPORTANT NEGOTIATING POINT. MOREOVER, SECOND PART OF BRACKETED SENTENCE, AS WE INTERPRET IT, RUNS COUNTER TO FACT, WELL-KNOWN TO CONFIDENTIAL

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ALLIES, THAT USG HAS TAKEN NO RPT NO DECISION ABOUT

WHETHER US WOULD MAKE FURTHER REDUCTIONS IN THE CONTEXT OF MBFR PHASE II.

- 2. DELETION OF ENTIRETY OF BRACKETED LANGUAGE FROM PARA 8 WOULD, HOWEVER, HAVE DISADVANTAGE OF LEAVING COMMUNIQUE WITH NO REFERENCE TO GOAL OF US/SOVIET FIRST PHASE REDUCTIONS(WHICH WE RECOMMENDED BE HIGHLIGHTED IN DPC COMMUNIQUE). THIS POINT COULD BE MET BY REVISING BRACKETED LANGUAGE TO READ: "THE MINISTERS REAFFIRMED THE POSITION THAT, AS AN IMPORTANT INITIAL STEP TOWARD THAT OBJECTIVE, A FIRST PHASE AGREEMENT SHOULD INVOLVE THE REDUCTION OF US AND SOVIET GROUND FORCES".
- 3. WE WOULD PREFER DELETION OF WORDS "IS ESSENTIALLY EXPLANATORY AND EXPOSITORY IN NATURE AND" FROM FIRST SENTENCE OF PARA 8. WE WOULD PREFER TO SEE THESE WORDS DELETED BECAUSE THEY TEND TO DOWNGRADE THE SERIOUS NATURE OF THE NEGOTIATIONS AND COULD CONVEY AN IMPRESSION OF UNDUE DELAY IN PROGRESS OF MBFR TALKS. SISCO

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